



Prerna Manch

"When you celebrate culture, you celebrate life"



Prerna Manch was initiated last year as an annual summer event. Since only a limited number of students got a chance to participate in competitions and the Annual Day performances, the intention was to promote fresh talent. The show was presented on the last day of school before summer vacation, so that parents who came to pick their children could enjoy it as well.

Students presented graceful dances in groups that were well synchronised with the *tabla*, *pakhawaj* and melodious hymns. Yoga performers, while performing *acro-yoga*, stretched themselves to display their flexibility and impeccable coordination. At their turn, Art students delighted the audience by creating *smoke art* on paper with candle light and stencils. A short video on the *pottery work* and *animated sand art* done by students was also presented. 'Junk Food', a *street play* by the Theatre club, emphasised the ill effects of excessive junk food consumption. The lively event concluded with an energetic *tabla* recital by twenty five students, setting a happy tone for the onset of summer vacations.

A Tryst with IIRS

"If you end up doing what you are passionate about, the journey is so easy"

- Rakesh Sharma, Astronaut



Yugank and Adarsh, both Science students of class XI, were chosen to attend a five day summer workshop at the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS). It was organised to create awareness on the use of Remote Sensing Technology to study the Earth and its environment.

Over five days, students from all over India attended lectures on - ISRO Launch Vehicles & Satellites, Physics behind Rockets, Space Science for Mankind, Gaganyaan, Earth's Moon, Mars and so on. They participated in demonstrations such as Water Rocket preparation, Model Rocket Making and assembled models of the Water Rocket and Wireless Rover. Participants were taken on a campus tour, where they saw the huge devices that are used for communication and data collection. Information regarding a career in aeronautics was shared and students got an opportunity to meet NASA experts in person. On the last day, documentaries on the Indian Space Programme were screened and a feedback session was held before concluding the workshop.

Our boys described their experience as interesting, interactive and informative. Their excitement fanned out to other students and teachers have received many requests from them to be considered for the next opportunity.

Bal Vatika & Jadui Pitara Workshop

"Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children" –

Charles R Swindoll



A workshop on *Bal Vatika* and *Jadui Pitara* was conducted at Delhi Public School, Kalagaon on 14th June. This was part of a CBSE initiative to promote awareness on various facets of the National Curriculum Framework's Foundation Stage (NCF-FS) for the foundational stage. Our Principal and four teachers attended the program.

Bal Vatika is an early childhood education initiative that fosters cognitive, social, emotional and physical development for children between 3 to 6 years. The workshop focused on play based learning and discussed topics such as Holistic Development, Inclusive Environment, Parental Involvement and Transition to Formal Education. Our primary wing already follows a similar pedagogy that strives to ensure that our young learners receive a balanced, enriching educational experience. *Jadui Pitara* is a play-based educational AI tool that caters to the foundational needs of learners. It is designed to develop cognitive, affective and psychomotor abilities through fun learning. Our teachers returned, keenly looking forward to applying the concepts articulated in the workshop. *Jadui Pitara* has since been implemented by a number of our teachers.

Teachers' Workshop

"If you have to put someone on a pedestal, put Teachers. They are Society's heroes"

- Guy Kawasaki



A two day Teachers Workshop was organised before school reopened after summer break. They were welcomed by the Society Secretary, who set the tone by reiterating the guiding principles of the school and their ongoing importance. Such

workshops have become a regular feature in our School. They serve to both boost teacher motivation and hone their teaching skills.

On the first day, topics such as - Good Communication, Building Rapport and Trust with Students, Conflict Resolution in the Classroom, Importance of Self-care for Teachers and similar were discussed. On the second day, Effective Classroom Management, Teachers as Mentors, Differentiating Between a Coach and a Mentor, Reactions vs Responses of a Teacher, Teacher's Role and Influence etc formed the agenda.

Teachers said that the workshop helped them understand the dynamic behaviour of students and gave them tools to deal with 'situations'. It also encouraged them to think out of the box and fine tune their skills to create enjoyable and productive class environs.

International Yoga Championship

"Try your best, don't think of the odds"



The fifth International Yoga Championship was organised by AYM Yoga School, Rishikesh. Four of our students submitted short individual videos of them performing the five compulsory asanas - *Padahastasana*, *Dhanurasana*, *Ardha*

Matsyendrasana, Sarvangasana and Parivrtta Trikonasana, and three advanced asanas of their choice. Ishika of class VIII qualified for the final round to be held at Rishikesh on International Yoga Day, 21st June.

She participated in the final round and performed the five compulsory asanas and the three advanced asanas *Eka Pada Rajakapotasana, Ustrasana and Surya Yantrasana*. Her performance was applauded and she won the first prize in her age category. In the final segment, 'Champion of Champions', the winners of all categories competed. Commendably, Ishita secured the runner up position. Considering that she was one of the youngest participants at the event, her achievement has made PYDS proud.

Book Launch

"If a story is in you, it has to come out" —William Faulkner



'Fangs of Death', a true story of the Kerala snake bite murder, the latest book of the father-son author duo, Alope Lal and Maanas Lal, was launched at the Doon Library and Research Centre on 22nd June. The book is about a gruesome crime in which a husband murdered his wife by inducing cobra bites.

Eight hostel residents, all of them avid readers, attended the event. They were all ears when the authors spoke about the book and their writing journey. The students snatched the opportunity to speak with Mr. Alope Lal, who generously gifted each of them an autographed copy of his former book, "On the Trail of Thugs and Thieves", and two copies for our school library. The book launch, being a novel experience,

thrilled our students. It will promote keen observation among them and, who knows, may inspire some to take up writing as a career.

Interhouse Dance Competition

"See the music, hear the dance" - George Balanchine



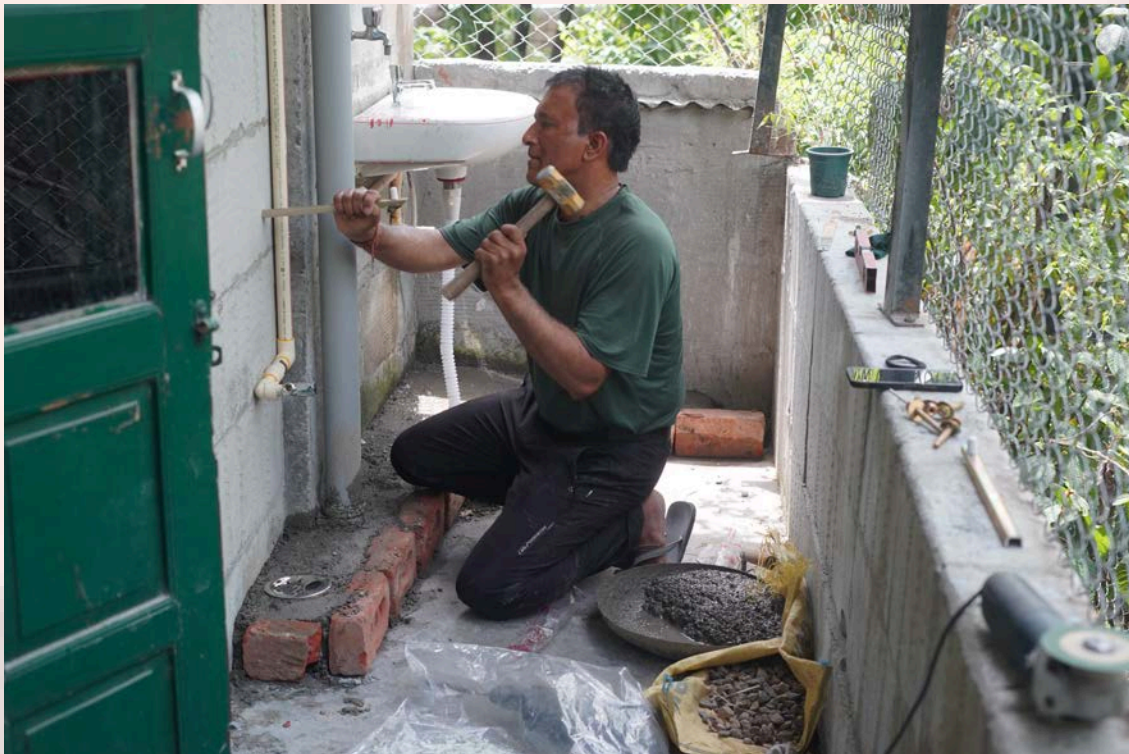
The first ever PYDS interhouse dance competition was held on 29th June. The event was divided into three categories - Primary, Middle and Senior. Each category was given a theme and the sub-theme was decided by lottery draw.

The themes and sub themes were : Primary: Festivals - *Holi, Janmashtami, Diwali and Durga Puja*. Middle: Mythology - *Shiv Parvati Vivah, Mahisasur Mardini, Lord Ganesh and Kaliyadaman*. Senior: Folk dances - *Lavani, Bhangra, Garba and Garhwali*

Students were given only an hour a day for five days to prepare a performance of six minutes. It was a requirement for every group to have between 8-10 students and participation of boys, who are otherwise reluctant dancers, was mandatory. The dance performances were evaluated for expressions, coordination, costumes as well as overall impact. It was commendable that all requirements were arranged in house.

Though it was a challenge to prepare the performances in five days, the teams did well. The larger result was reinforced team spirit, discovery of new talents and a fresh impetus for the new term.

Summer Break Renovation and Construction



A number of renovation and construction works were undertaken on campus during the summer vacations. In the girls' hostel, worn out bathroom doors were replaced. Eleven wash basins were added to ease the morning rush and enhance hygiene. An additional twelve exhaust fans were installed to improve ventilation in the dormitories and shoe racks were placed in each dormitory to improve storage.



The uneven surface of two brick walls in the Junior library were plastered to give a smooth finish and painted white. Also some broken window panes were replaced and cupboards painted.



A small part of the Tinkering Lab was partitioned to create a new classroom for the oncoming Navjeevan 7 batch. Electrical fittings were installed and the new walls were painted to give this class a fresh new look.



The embankment that supports the sports field suffers from continuous erosion from the adjacent stream. Over time pieces of this reinforcement have been washed away, due to which a cavity had been created under the sports field. To rectify the problem, gaps were filled with rock and concrete, and a new solid wall was built alongside to prevent the flow of water from eroding the base of the sports field.



The entire flooring of class VI B was redone as it had cracked and become uneven in many places. Both staff rooms and the Dean's room were repainted.

We are proud of...

Mohammed Aneesh PYDS batch 2013



Aneesh lives in Makkawala village, Dehradun. A student of John Martyn School, Salan Gaon till class V, he joined Swamy Sir's evening classes in class VI, 2006 and was financially supported by PYDS to attend Jaswant Modern School.

Aneesh considered himself to be an average student but with an active interest in drawings and 3D analysis. This prompted him to pursue a bachelor's degree in Architecture. Aided by our *On to Life* Program, which provides after school support, he joined B.Arch at DIT University, Dehradun. On completing his graduation in 2018, he got a six month internship in Gurgaon.

He then joined Tata Consultancy Services on Swamy Sir's recommendation. He worked with them for two years and soon began to handle small projects as a freelancer. In 2022, he together with a colleague established his own enterprise called *ACES Architects* in Dehradun. His firm deals with all types of architectural works like drawings & planning building structures, carrying out commercial construction, getting government approvals and similar. So far he has completed two projects successfully and is working on the third.

Aneesh reminisces about the time when his mother would walk him to PYDS for evening classes, and then come back to pick him, carrying out household chores in between. *"I did not realise my mother's passion to educate me at that time. Self-realisation dawned upon me only after I started my own enterprise and had to figure out everything myself; from managing finance, resources, marketing, daily work etc. Students today may not realise the importance of subjects taught in school; till the day they start their own business and have to manage everything themselves. If I could go back to school again, I would pay 100% attention in class."*

Students of PYDS are lucky that they have so many teachers to guide them. I have a lot of respect for Swamy Sir and all my teachers who seemed harsh during my school days but taught me lessons that continue to inspire me. I am keen to share my knowledge and mistakes with my juniors, to help them move forward.

As a boy, my ideal was Jack Ma. I followed him regularly. To constantly improve and upgrade myself, I list my work at the end of the day and then analyse my shortcomings on a monthly basis. I identify areas that need improvement and then begin to work on them.”

Aneesh has taken a leap into entrepreneurship at a young age. A self made man, he will undoubtedly go a long way. The PYDS family applauds him and wishes him all the best for a successful future.

With the onset of rains, the green landscape has driven us into a happy and joyous mood. We send our best wishes to all the friends and patrons of PYDS. Have fun and keep in touch.

Donate to spread smiles!



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